Introduced by Assembly Members Benoit and Cook

(Coauthor: Senator Dutton)

February 15, 2007

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 22—Relative to the Armed Forces Freeway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 22, as introduced, Benoit. Armed Forces Freeway.

This measure would designate a portion of State Highway Route 215 in Riverside County as the Armed Forces Freeway. The measure also would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing that special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- WHEREAS, The City of Riverside's Military Heritage
- 2 Committee in 2006 adopted as a project the designation of a local
- 3 freeway in honor of the area's military history; and
- 4 WHEREAS, The committee was joined by the Riverside County
- 5 Board of Supervisors in identifying a portion of State Highway
- 6 Route 215 to be designated as the Armed Forces Freeway; and
- WHEREAS, The designation would commemorate the extensive
- 8 military history of Riverside County, from 1774 when Lieutenant
- 9 Colonel Juan Bautista de Anza marched through the area now
- 10 occupied by March Air Reserve Base, to the formation of
- 11 Riversides own World War I volunteer regiment (the Rainbow

 $ACR 22 \qquad \qquad -2-$

1 Rifles), to the establishment of Alessandro Field in February 1918,

- 2 to the numerous military facilities established throughout the
- 3 county that contributed to the Nation's war effort during World
- 4 War II, to today's strategically located and thriving March Air

5 Reserve Base; and

WHEREAS, Riverside County has been home to many important military facilities, including Camp Rancho del Jurupa (1862,

- 8 Army), Camp Rubidoux (World War II, California State Guard),
- 9 Camp Ono (World War II, Army), Camp Haan (World War II,
- 10 Army), Camp Anza (World War II, Army), March Air Force Base 11 and March Air Reserve Base (World War I and continuing, Army
- 12 Air Corps and Air Force), with additional subsidiary and medical
- 13 facilities located in Norco, Thermal, Desert Center, Blythe,
- Banning, Beaumont, Cherry Valley, Hemet, and Palm Springs;

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WHEREAS, The portion of State Highway Route 215 to be designated as the Armed Forces Freeway runs between present day March Air Reserve Base and the Veterans' Administration's Riverside National Cemetery, home of the National Medal of Honor Memorial, the National POW Memorial, and the Veterans' Memorial, and thus is a fitting tribute to honor the many men and women of our Armed Forces who have at one time or another called this area home; now, therefor, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the portion of State Highway Route 215 in Riverside County between the intersection of State Highway Route 60 and the Ramona Expressway is hereby designated as the Armed Forces Freeway; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of appropriate signs for State Highway Route 215, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this special designation, and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.